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INSIDE N.I.

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

February 2002 Applications for Membership: The following persons have applied for membership. If no written objections are received by April 1, 2002 their membership will become effective on that date.

- 2615 Paul Baker
 (20th Century, Africa, Bi-Metallics)
- 2616-MT Jack Brigham, 249 Intrepid Court, Tallahassee, FL 32312
 (World Types)
- 2617 Steve Yakoubian, P. O. Box 13372, Torrance, CA 90503
 (World Pattern Coins & Early Liberia)



DONATIONS REPORT

We have received the following donations since the last report:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Donation</u>	<u>Preference of Use</u>
Anonymous	10 lbs. World Coins	Kidpacks Project
Anonymous	\$500.00 Cash	General Operating Fund
Mobil Corp. Matching Gift Program	\$500.00 Cash	General Operating Fund
BRUCK, Frederick R. II	\$10.00 Cash	General Operating Fund
BUSSCHERS, Johan	\$7.00 Cash	General Operating Fund
KNEPPER, Robert C.	\$100.00 Cash	NI Library Fund
KOONTZ, L. Donald	\$10.00 Cash	NI Bulletin Fund
LAY, Evan L.	\$10.00 Cash	General Operating Fund
MERNICK, Phillip	\$2.00 Cash	General Operating Fund
MORRIS, Jonathan	\$5.00 Cash	General Operating Fund
OLDHAM, Wayland	\$10.00 Cash	General Operating Fund
VAUGHN, John W.	\$15.00 Cash	General Operating Fund
WURM, G.	\$9.00 Cash	General Operating Fund
ZANDER, Ervin D.	\$10.00 Cash	NI Bulletin Fund



LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

The following books are new to the Library:

Francis B. Besseney

JJ70.KarL:1998:UMB

KAROLY, LEANYFALUSI/ADAM, NAGY

Magyarország fem-es papirpenzei/Ungarische munzen und banknoten 1926-1998.

(In Hungarian but with German cross references.)

Pub. 1998, 311 pp, illus.

RK60.GyoS:1998:MEEE

GYORGY, SZOLLATH

Magyar eremgyujtok egyesületének érmei #3

(Medals of the Association of Hungarian Medal Collectors 1989-1998 #3)

Pub. 1998, 91pp, illus.

JJ70.GarE:1999:75ANBH

GARAMI, ERIKA/NEMETH, KRISZTINA (Translator)

The 75th Anniversary of the National Bank of Hungary. Issue between 1924-1999. An exhibition of the banknote and coin collection of the National Bank of Hungary.

Pub. 1999, 68pp, illus.

Marvin L. Fraley

JF40.VdWA:1972:BOGNM

VAN DER WIEL, ALKO

Beknopt overzicht van de geschiedenis van de Nederlandse munten en het Nederlandsh muntwezen.

(Brief survey of the history of the Netherlands money and the Netherlands monetary system.)

Pub. 1972, 11pp, not illus.

PL10.WeIL:1986:TINEI

WELLS, L.

Tokens of Indonesia: the Netherlands East Indies, Portuguese Timor, and the Republic of Indonesia. (The second draft copy)

Pub. 1986, 47pp, not illus.

Granvyl G. Hulse, Jr., Book Librarian

James D. Haley, Periodical Librarian

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COUNTERMARKED COIN OF NEGAPATAM/CEYLON

Paul F. L. de Groot, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, NI #1786



Circa 1695 the Dutch struck heavy copper coinage in Negapatam on the Indian mainland, mainly for use in Ceylon. A Stuiver (stiver) in my collection (Scholten 1244) is stamped , a native letter K. It is not known what that means, but it *could* be Kompani (Company, i.e. VOC) or Kolombo (Colombo).

THE DIVINE SHEPHERDESS

Bob Forrest, Manchester, England, NI #2382



The bronze Spanish medal shown actual size here probably dates from the early 19th century. Unfortunately it is very worn, enabling only a rough sketch of it to be made. The reverse is of such a common type that one can reconstruct it despite the wear: it depicts the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary (1), surmounted by the Dove of the Holy Spirit (2), with the legend CORAZONES DE JESUS Y DE

MARIA = Hearts of Jesus and Mary. In the exergue is ROMA, probably here indicating manufacture in Rome for export to Spain, rather than an origin as a souvenir medal of a pilgrimage to the Holy City (3).

But it is the obverse image which is not common, and which is of particular interest here, for it depicts the Virgin Mary as LA DIVINA PASTORA, the Divine Shepherdess. She holds a shepherd's crook (the basis of the bishop's crosier, of course (4)) and at her feet is a lamb.

I could find no reference to this image-type of Mary in any of my English reference books, but fortunately my friend Juan José Moreno y Casanova in Madrid was able to fill this gap (5). La Divina Pastora, it turns out, is a 17th century invention of Spanish art which applies the same religious metaphor to the Virgin Mary as is more regularly applied to Christ in his role as the Good Shepherd (6) - that is, that she looks after her devotees as a shepherdess looks after her flock. La Divina Pastora is normally depicted wearing a predictably rustic outfit - a tunic of sheep-skin and a straw-hat, adorned with a band and decorated with flowers, none of which are visible on this medal, if indeed they were ever there. The shepherd's crook is, of course, a regular adjunct to the image, as is the lamb, which she is often depicted stroking. Sometimes she carries the Infant Jesus in her arms (the Lamb of God (6)), but again this is not visible on the medal.

The image of La Divina Pastora was apparently especially popular in Spanish Capuchin convents, so perhaps this medal relates to one such.

Notes.

- (1) "On Sacred Hearts" in *NI Bulletin*, July 2001, p.193-203.
- (2) "The Dove: from Noah's Ark to the Baptism of Christ" in *NI Bulletin*, November 2001, p.307-319.
- (3) "To be a Pilgrim - I" in *NI Bulletin*, March 2000, p.66-76.
- (4) G. Ferguson, *Signs and Symbols in Christian Art* (1961), under "Crosier" (p.164).
- (5) Louis Reau, *Iconografía del Arte Cristiano* (1996), tom.1, vol.2, p.133.
- (6) "A Miscellany of Symbols" in *NI Bulletin*, September 2001, p.251-262.

NIGERIA SUB-TYPES OF 1, 5, 10 AND 25 KOBO COINS

Paul Baker

There is something about the Nigeria 1, 5 and 10 Kobo coins of types KM-8, 9 and 10 that seems to have gone unnoticed. It would seem that for all these types a significant change was made for all pieces dated after 1976. The change is in the motto on the ribbon on the coat of arms on the obverse. Older pieces have the motto "UNITY AND FAITH" and newer (after 1976) pieces have the motto "UNITY AND FAITH PEACE AND PROGRESS". To accommodate the longer motto these later pieces have a longer ribbon. I have a suitable selection of these coins though not yet one of each and every date. The longer ribbon pieces are harder to find, especially the 1 Kobo. The longer motto is used on all of the 1990's coins of Nigeria and it seems that perhaps the longer version of the motto is what should have always been used.



1 Kobo coins come in a total of three varieties:

- a) 1973, 1974 - Bronze, short motto.
- b) 1987, 1988 - Bronze, long motto.
- c) 1991 - Copper-Plated-Steel, reduced size, long motto.

5 Kobo coins come in a total of two varieties:

- a) 1973, 1974, 1976 - Copper-Nickel, short motto.
 - b) 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, Copper-Nickel, long motto.
- (I have also heard that there is definitely a 1984 date of this second sub-type.)

10 Kobo coins come in a total of three varieties:

- a) 1973, 1974, 1976 - Copper-Nickel, round, short motto.
- b) 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990 - Copper-Nickel, round, long motto.
- c) 1991 - Copper-Plated-Steel, reduced size, rounded/multi-sided, long motto.

25 Kobo coins come in a total of two varieties which differ in a number of ways.

- a) 1973, 1975 - Copper-Nickel, security edge, short motto.
- b) 1991 - Copper-Plated-Steel, reduced size, reeded edge, long motto.

THE “CHILOÉ PESO”: AN IMPORTANT CHILEAN OBSIDIONAL COIN

Carlos M. Jara, NI #2529



The Chiloé Peso is arguably the most important obsidional Chilean coin but it has been considered with much suspicion by most collectors due to both the lack of documentation concerning this issue and to the fact that even the pieces that are or have been considered as genuine do not share similar characteristics. Only such similar characteristics would allow establishing a pattern to distinguish genuine pieces from forgeries. This article proposes such a pattern thanks to the incorporation of new information relative to the issue and presents unknown historical aspects of it.

1. Known antecedents:

The Chiloé 8 Reales (or Peso) is a cast 8 Reales supposedly issued by Spanish commander Antonio Quintanilla in the Chiloé archipiélago. Quintanilla was the last Spanish commander to surrender to the Republican forces in 1826.

As said before, published information about the Chiloé 8 R is very reduced.

The first and more useful data was provided by J. T. Medina in “Las Monedas Chilenas”, where he indicated that Quintanilla proceeded to cast 8 R coins with the bust of Ferdinand VII using Potosí 8 R as moulds with the legend “Chi Loé” added. He also implies that this issue was propaganda in nature (“to show his fidelity to Ferdinand VII”) and describes his 1822 dated specimen as having a hand made reeded edge design and a weight of 22.1 grs. Sadly he only shows a hand drawing of the piece (see image 1). This exact description is repeated in his “Las Monedas Obsidionales”, this work being however of great interest since it plates a different specimen cast from a 1818 Lima 8 R (see image 7). Medina writes: “I describe the coin that I had in my collection (the 1822 specimen) and illustrate the coin in the collection of Alcibiades Sta Cruz (the 1818)”.

Through the years no other relevant historic information was added as Herrera (“El Duro”), Fontecilla Larraín (“Las Monedas que circularon en Chile” & “Notas Numismáticas”), Covarrubias (“Las Monedas Chilenas”), Dasí (“8 Reales”), only refer to Medina. However they do mention and sometimes illustrate several different specimens. Only one study of this coin has been traced, by Robert Otaegui in 1986; we shall refer to this article later.

From the above and various auction catalogues we can identify five (5) different types of pieces:

1. The specimen dated 1818, cast from a Lima 8 Reales mould, illustrated by Medina. This coin shows a doubled date and obverse legends, a weight of 26.7 grams which is fairly close to the standard 27 grams and a hand made edge design. Apparently, no other pieces of this type have surfaced since all references are to this same specimen, the origins of which can be traced to the XIX century. This coin clearly should be considered genuine or at least contemporary since its appearance predates the information about the issue. See image 7.
2. The specimens from a Potosí 1822 mould, illustrated by Casa de Moneda (1943), Burzio, Elizondo 1 (1968), Finansa (1979). The Eidelstein's collection piece (Christensen, March 1966 auction, lot #3720, weight = 24.3 grams) and one of the Goldbaum specimens (Christensen July 25, 1986 auction, lot #688, weight = 23.387 grams) are also from this type as is the Von Schukmann specimen (probably the same specimen pictured by Elizondo) to be sold in the Cayón auction, December 13, 2001, lot #3106, weight = 23.39 grams. All these pieces have a plain edge, and weight ranges from 23.387 to 24.3 grams as noted above. See images 2-6, 12.
3. The specimen cast from a different Potosí 1822 mould, plated in Elizondo 2, Almanzar's auction of April 26-27, 1974, lot #1005, and KM. This is the same specimen sold in the Ponterio auction of the Amat collection (Ponterio March 8, 1991, lot #62). Weight of this piece is a high 28.5 grams and it has a plain edge and a double date. See images 9, 9a, 9c.
4. The cast piece from yet another 1822 Potosí 8 Reales mould, from the Goldbaum collection (Christensen July 25, 1986 auction, lot #688). Weight is 23.387 grams and it also has a plain edge. This piece now resides in the N. Petersen collection in Chile. See image 12.
5. The specimens which are normal 8 reales with the "Chi-Loé" legends engraved. A number of these pieces exist. Many still have the standard 8 Reales edge ("cadeneta") although from some it has been shaved off. Most are 1822 Potosí although an 1825 Potosí exists which is plated by Calbetó and an 1818 Potosí is in the author's collection. All show a weight of under 27 grams due to the engraving. One such specimen is in the Museo de la Historia in Argentina. See images 1, 8, 10, 11.

Three theories about how to determine genuineness have been proposed:

- Noted dealer Christensen proposed that the type 2 specimens were similar to Medina's specimen and were thus authentic. This similar argumentation is again printed in the Von Schukmann sale catalog where it is further stated that the Medina specimen later was acquired by Garcia Burr, another famous Chilean collector from the 1960-1970's.

- Another theory is due to Alberto Derman, a noted Argentinian dealer. Mr. Derman proposes that the genuine specimens purposely have a double date, as do the type 3 specimen, ex Amat, and the type 1 specimen plated by Medina. No mention is made though of the very different style of the Chi-Loé legend or the different edges (hand made and inexistent) that these pieces show.
- The third theory appeared in A. Otaegui's previously mentioned article. According to Mr. Otaegui, the Chiloé province never suffered from the lack of circulating coinage and thus the coins must be considered as a propaganda issue. As such, since the type 5 specimens are more aesthetically pleasing than cast pieces, some could be considered genuine although it is of course impossible to determine which!

This last theory has not found much support in numismatic circles, as can be seen in Freeman Craig's comments on the Amat specimen and the comments on the Von Schukmann specimen in the Cayón auction of December 13, 2001.

As we can see, all of these arguments result from efforts to "link" a type of pieces to one of the two coins that are accepted to be genuine, the 1822 from the Medina collection and the 1818 that Medina plates.

We shall now present information that shows some unknown aspects of the Chiloé coins.

2. New Antecedents:

A. Historical background:

Unedited documents have allowed us to establish the following: it is effective that Quintanilla proceeded to cast 8 Reales coins during the times of Spanish dominion at Chiloé; a contemporary estimate of this issue is of 1800 pesos.

Circulation of these coins was allowed until late 1832 (more than 6 years after their "minting"). At that time, a sudden appearance of counterfeits resulted in complaints of local merchants. Consequently the Chiloé authorities decided to recall all coins and forbid their circulation.

The above facts are resumed in a letter from Chiloé's intendant J. F. Carballo to the Minister of Hacienda in Santiago, dated December 20, 1832. From that letter, we quote:

"At the time of Spanish dominion, a decision was made to cast coins in this place, around 1800 pesos, which had same weight and fineness as the Spanish but of an entirely crude and rough fabrication.

At the occupation of the province by the forces of the Republic, the circulation of the referred coin was permitted, not expressedly but verbally and tacitly, and this has continued until now.

Due to the facility to imitate it was replaced by a counterfeit one first in little quantity and of a correct intrinsical value but eventually a considerable part of the circulating coins appeared suddenly, being so badly counterfeited that it had none of the appearance and surfaces of the legal coinage."

We will now present more detailed facts of the above.

One of the earliest written notices relating to the appearance of counterfeits is a letter from Judge O'Brien of San Carlos (a town in Chiloé, capital of the Province) to intendant Carballo, dated December 10, 1832, from which we quote:

"In this day, due to complaints I have received, I found that an individual had about 50 pesos of counterfeit provincial coins; I have therefore concluded that the public rumour that a considerable amount of this type of coinage is circulating is founded. Under these principles I have immediately taken efficient and active measures that to discover the forgers of these false coins; luckily I was able to surprise a delinquent quasi in fraganti who confessed to have fabricated about 200 pesos...".

After deliberating with various authorities of Chiloé, intendant Carballo decreed the following, on December 11, 1832:

"Due to the scandalous falsification of provincial coinage that has been noticed and this has been certified by the treasury Minister, the Law judge and various individuals of this commerce, and also considering that the indicated coinage does not have the corresponding authorization and to provide against damages resulting from the easiness to counterfeit it, I have come to decree the following:

- 1. Circulation of provincial coinage is forbidden since the publication of this decree.*
- 2. Those who have in their possession some quantities of it will deliver them in the delay of 48 hours.*
- 3. The government will take all measures to avoid damages to those who have legal coins, considering that although these dispositions may have some momentaneous drawbacks that will be as reduced as possible, they will eventually lead to benefits in general making the decree effective in all parts of the Province.*

The local Governor of this town of San Carlos will see that the preceding disposition is published at 10 hours of tomorrow."

A commission was quickly formed to attend the calling in of the coins, which extended for 3 days as stated by the decree.

A well detailed "compte rendu" of these events was given by the Commission to intendant Carballo in a letter (dated December 14, 1832).

Total of the genuine provincial coins recalled was 509 pesos. Simultaneously, a total of 334 counterfeit pesos were returned to their owners after being broken (this avoiding their circulation).

Due to the lack of sufficient funds to pay for the recalled coins (which amounted to 520 pesos), a loan was asked to a wealthy Chiloé merchant named Eugenio de Matta; de Matta himself had presented 100 provincial pesos and 50 forgeries to the commission!

All the above procedure was informed by Carballo to the Santiago district attorney in the previously mentioned letter of December 20, 1832. The reply to this letter by the district attorney was written on March 29, 1833. The letter issued some remarks concerning the “genuineness” of Quintanilla’s issue:

“From the communications of Intendant Carballo, it appears that 2 types of illegitimate coins have circulated...

One type has been called legitimate because it supposedly has the weight, type and fineness of the one produced at our Mint but this is probably false since there is not in that province an assayer nor people skilled in the working of metals nor the adequate machinery; there coins cannot be in according with the fineness weight and type but omitting this particular point and even assuming that they do not differ in any aspect with the coins issued at our Mint, the sole fact of an individual appropriating himself of the faculty and rights that belong to the Nation and her exclusive representants to mint is punished by the law with death and other penalties”.

It thus appears that the attorney did not give Quintanilla’s issue a legitimate status which is natural if we consider that Quintanilla was considered as a rebel by the Republicans.

He also issued the following decree:

“Considering these principles and since it is notorious that the circulation of neither the old tolerated coins nor the modern ones the “fiscal” indicates”

- 1. The intendant of San Carlos de Chiloé has acted accordingly to the law, by examining both types of coins, “inutilizado” the recent forgeries and sending the old ones which should also be inutilized.*
- 2. It is fair, since the Governments have tacitly allowed their circulation until now, that the owners of these old coins receive their “true value” passing them to the Mint for their assaying.*
- 3. The intendant should publish the “bandos” to make the owners of either type of coins submit them to the treasury in a sufficient and prudent delay accordingly to the distances from the sites of the province where they are sparsed.*
- 4. Whoever is proven to be a counterfeiter, counselor hider of these delinquents or that in some way has cooperated to the crime, will incur in death penalty and confiscation of his goods.*
- 5. The band or bands that are published shall be circulated to all sites of the province, putting them in the most public places, the public employees shall put all their efforts in discovering the counterfeiters. From this moment, they will be held responsible for their omission and lack of vigilance.*

Only 30 additional pesos of provincial coinage had been recalled when the above decree was received in Chiloé.

Citizen de Matta received payment for his loan on January 1834; total received was 524 pesos 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ reales which included a premium of $\frac{1}{4}$ real per peso.

The above documentation allows us to establish the true nature of commander Quintanilla's issue: his was a provincial necessity issue of cast 8 Reales coins. The "Chi-Loé" legends added to the mould were an intrinsic part of this provincial character, a characteristic to distinguish the issue from other cast coins and not a propaganda act. Additional evidence of the lack of circulating coinage during various periods of the Quintanilla administration of the Province can be found in Barros Arana's "Las Campañas de Chiloé". This of course invalidates Mr. Otaegui's theory: no engraved or chiseled pieces can be considered as genuine.

We will now present another little known information that will allow us to distinguish contemporary cast specimens from later copies, namely the illustration of Medina's specimen dated 1822.

B. Illustration of the Medina specimen:

This specimen is plated in the book *Colección de Monedas de Chile* by Rafael González, on page 27.

González bought Medina's first collection of Chilean coins (circa 1902-1907) and through his book (actually an illustrated catalogue of his personal collection) we can see the illustration of most of the plate coins from Medina's "Las Moneda Chilenas". Later González' collection was enlarged by another private collector and finally purchased by the Banco de Chile where it resides until now. Due to the Banco de Chile's regulations, it is not possible to photograph this piece but it has been studied by the author. Its characteristics are those mentioned by Medina.

The above explains why Medina plated the 1818 specimen instead of his own coin in his "Las Monedas Obsidionales de Chile", published in 1919, long after the sale of the mentioned 1822 dated specimen.

Although González' book has been referenced by some noted dealers/numismatists in the past, it appears that the Chiloé specimen was never studied as some similarities between the two pieces referenced by Medina are quite obvious.

We can underline four major facts after studying the two pieces (dated 1818 and 1822) mentioned by Medina:

1. Both specimens have a crude hand made edge design.
2. The Medina 1822 specimen does not show a double date; consequently, it is incorrect to assume, as proposed by Mr. Derman, that all genuine/contemporary coins have a double date.

3. In both pieces, the punches of “Chi” and “Loé” are in two different horizontal levels and come from fairly similar punches although not identical ones.
4. Both pieces share an additional characteristic, namely a flattening (on the reverse) in the corresponding positions of the “Chi” “Loé” punches. However, the punches show noticeable cast porosity in both pieces and the reverse surface does not show an obliteration in these areas. Consequently, we can conclude that the 2 coins were produced by using cast moulds of 8 R coins previously countermarked with the “Chi” “Loé” punches. This further appears in the fact that the “Chi” punch is slightly doubled in the 1818 specimen: this punch was hence twice struck in the coin used as a casting mould.

With the above facts, it is fairly easy to discard the contemporary coins from the fakes produced to deceived collectors.

Forgeries type A: the engraved/chiseled coins.

As said before, all these specimens are blatant forgeries incompatible with the contemporary description of the provincial coins issued by commander Quintanilla. The most famous of these pieces is probably the Museo de la Academia de la Historia specimen, ex Berasategui.

Cast forgery type B: the Amat collection specimen.

This specimen was probably manufactured by adding the “Chi-Loé” legends to the casting mould. The doubled date it shows could be a coincidence but is more likely the result of an attempt to match this same characteristic from the 1818 type 1 specimen. It would be highly unlikely that two contemporary specimens both dated 1822 but of very different manufacturing techniques could exist. Furthermore, the absence of an edge design would preclude circulation of this coin and the high 28.3 grams weight is incompatible with a contemporary forgery. This coin is thus a modern fabrication. When it was sold in the Almanzar auction, its companion lot was a normal 1822 piece of fairly similar style, perhaps the product of the same forger. Let us finally note that the description of this piece in the Amat collection auction contained various mistakes as the cataloguer failed to notice that the Medina description corresponded (as Medina himself underlines) to his 1822 piece and not to the 1818 plated one.

Cast forgery type C: the Casa de Moneda-Burzio-Eidelstein-Goldbaum 1-Von Schukmann type.

It is quite obvious that the “Chi-Loé” legends of these pieces were styled based on the Medina drawing (which is, as we saw, quite different from the actual piece!).

This similarity induced Christensen into an error when he described lot 688 in the Santiago collection: “the style of the lettering matches that of the Medina and Goldbaum pieces”. The same error is repeated in the recent Von Schukmann auction catalog.

Furthermore, these cast pieces “match” exactly the engraved pieces of the Museo de la Academia de la Historia. We can therefore conclude that this same chiseled piece was the one used as a model for the casting mould that eventually produced this group of counterfeits.

The Medina specimen never passed to the Garcia Burr holdings as is stated in the Von Schukmann sale catalog.

Cast forgery type D: the Goldbaum 2nd specimen.

Since its style is very close to the Medina 1822 piece, it is probable that this cast imitation was produced trying to match the latter piece. Again it lacks an edge design characteristic of an issue intended to circulate.

Let us now discuss a final point of interest: the fact that a pair of coins from two mints (Potosí and Lima) were countermarked with “Chi” Loé” punches produced from different dies to produce 2 distinct casting moulds strong suggest two different periods of manufacture for the 1818 and 1822 dated specimens.

Although it could be accepted from the “mintage” figures (around 1800 pieces) that both of these pieces were issued by Quintanilla, a more probable explanation for the above fact is the following:

From the exposed documents, it appears clearly that the recalling of the provincial coinage was done very quickly, trying to give an immediate solution to the problem of circulating counterfeit pieces.

The commission that classified the coins submitted was composed of Judge O’Brien (who declared himself “incapable of distinguishing the good coins from the bad ones”), a colonel and various merchants.

It is thus highly likely that no members of the aforementioned commission had the technical knowledge to determine the fineness of the submitted coins. This fact was aggravated by the absence of implements to assay the coins.

The above was clearly noted by the attorney of Santiago: “... *given the absence in the Province of assayers, of skilled metal workers and of adequate machinery, those coins (he was referring to Quintanilla’s “official” Chiloé 8 Reales) can not be of the correct fineness, weight... ”.*

This same official consequently ordered that the authentic 8 R issued by Quintanilla should be sent to the Santiago mint for their assays. After assaying these coins, their owners should receive not the nominal 8 R value for each coin but instead “their true intrinsic value”.

Not being able to evaluate the fineness, one must assume that the appearance and principally the weight of the coins submitted were the main aspects considered by the commission to determine whether a coin was genuine or counterfeit.

At least 509 coins were considered genuine (and remember that Quintanilla’s issue was similar in the fineness and the weight to the standard Spanish colonial 8 Reales) so it is clear that Quintanilla was able to produce a coinage with a fairly close weight to the 27.00 gram standard. At 22.1 grams the Medina specimen clearly is far away from that standard; consequently, it is very probable that this piece, which is unquestionably contemporary, is a contemporary forgery. It would have definitely been classified as such and broken by the commission that presided the recalling of the coins!

Images:



1: Line drawing from “Las Monedas Chilenas” and the engraved specimen from the Academia Nacional de la Historia.



2: Specimen plated in the Memoria de Casa de Moneda de 1943. Exactly matching the engraved specimen of fig. 1.



3: Similar specimen plated by Burzio.



4: Similar specimen from the Eidelstein collection (Christensen, 1966).



5: Similar specimen plated by Elizondo 1st edition. This same specimen is in the Von Schukmann collection.



6: Similar specimen plated by Finansa (1979).



7: The 1818 specimen plated by Medina and its hand made edge design.



Enlargement of the “Chi”-Loé” legends and the corresponding flattenings on the obverse; note a double punch in “Chi”.



8: Specimen from the Gibbs collection (Hans Schulman, 1966), engraved.



9: The Amatz collection specimen as plated by Elizondo, 2nd edition.



9a: Same specimen plated in Almanzar's 1974 auction.



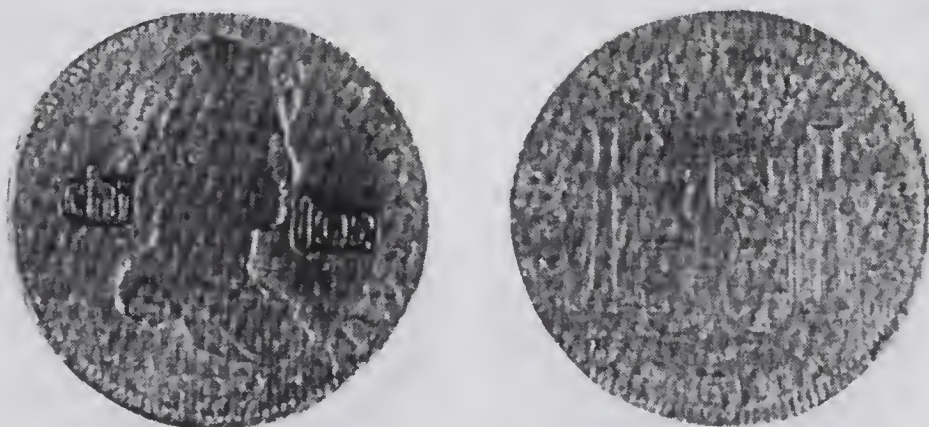
9b: The companion lot (engraved) of the above specimen in the Almanzar 1974 auction.



9c: The Amat specimen as plated in the Ponterio catalog.



10: The 1825 dated specimen plated by Calbetó.



11: The engraved specimen auctioned by Christensen in 1974.



12: The 2 Goldbaum specimens (Christensen 1986).



13: The Medina collection piece dated 1822: note the flattening on the obverse in the corresponding positions of the “Chi”-Loé” punches.

RESUME



Authentic specimen dated 1818.



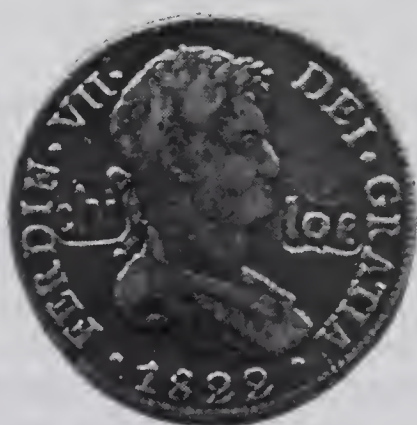
1822 dated specimen, probably a contemporary forgery (ex Medina).



Engraved fakes (in the author's collection).



Amat collection specimen: counterfeit.



Type B fake (in the author's collection).

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 - Cayón auctions, December 13, 2001.

NEW BONDS IN ARGENTINA

Argentina is suffering an economic crisis and the provinces have resorted to issuing circulating bonds as they have done in the past. These bonds are issued in denominations of 2, 5, 10, 20 and 50 pesos. Each province has different bonds with different names: Patacón (Buenos Aires), Quebracho (Chaco), Bonfes (Entre Rios), Bocanfor (Formosa), Bocade (Tucumán), Lecor (Lecop Córdoba), Evita (La Rioja), Cecacor (Corrientes) and Bono Público (Catamarca).

(BoletínElectrum at <http://www.bigfoot.com/~fenyma>)

ST. AGNES

Bob Forrest, Manchester, England, NI #2382

At the tender age of only thirteen, Agnes decided to devote herself to Christ, and to be his "bride" to the exclusion of all earthly suitors. As she was, by all accounts, a real beauty and as, in addition, she came from a wealthy family, this was not welcome news to the young men of Rome where she lived. It was the time of the persecutions under the Emperor Diocletian, and some of her unsuccessful suitors decided to try and force her to change her mind by denouncing her as a Christian, their hope being that the threat of torture would pretty rapidly change her mind. It didn't work. Threats of fire and the rack failed to move her, so it was decided, more out of spite than anything else, that she should be exposed to unrestricted sexual abuse in a brothel. The prospect is said to have attracted "many young profligates...full of wicked desires", but such was her sanctity that "none durst approach her", save one who "attempting to be rude to her, was that very instant, by a flash, as it were, of lightning from Heaven, struck blind, and fell trembling to the ground." (Butler.) Of course, Agnes forgave the would-be rapist, and restored his health and eyesight to him, but the whole fiasco so enraged the authorities that they ordered her to be beheaded forthwith. She is said to have gone to her execution "more cheerfully than others go to their wedding." She was buried a short distance outside Rome beside the Via Nomentana, the church of Sant' Agnese Fuori le Mura (St. Agnes Without the Walls) later being erected over her grave.



On the modern aluminium - and English - medal depicted here, 1½ times actual size, the young Saint is shown with long hair (said by some to have grown to hide her nakedness when exposed in the brothel!), holding a palm of martyrdom in her left hand, and with a lamb cradled in her right arm. The lamb is a regular symbol of St. Agnes, probably in part via the obvious pun of her name on *Agnus Dei*, the Lamb of God = Christ.

St. Agnes has always been regarded as the special patroness of chastity, and in more recent times, of the victims of rape. It used to be said that on the night before her feast day (January 21st), St. Agnes would show young women their future husbands in their dreams, provided they had fasted beforehand.

The reverse of the medal is, of course, the Virgin Mary as the Immaculate Conception, in the format and with the legend of the Miraculous Medal of St. Catherine Labouré: O MARY CONCEIVED WITHOUT SIN PRAY FOR US WHO HAVE RECOURSE TO THEE.

Sources:

Butler's Lives of the Saints, ed. H. Thurston and D. Attwater (1956), vol. 1, p.133-7; *Encyclopedia of Saints*, Clemens Jöckle (1997), p.15-16; *Patron Saints*, Michael Freze (1992), p.181.

What is it?

Ira Rezak & Bob Forrest



The bronze medal pictured here actual size turned up in a dealer's junk box. On the obverse is a young woman carrying a water-pot on her head, and with a herd of sheep milling around her feet. On the reverse is a young man sitting beneath a tree and playing some sort of pipe. All very rustic, but what is it?

The obverse exergual legend tells us, for it reads in Hebrew, “Keren Kayemeth Le Israel” meaning literally “The Everlasting Fund for Israel” and indicating that this is a promotional medal of what is otherwise known as the Jewish National Fund (or JNF for short).

The JNF was founded in 1901 to raise money to purchase land for Jewish settlement in what was then Palestine. After the state of Israel was founded in 1948, the money raised was put towards land development and forestry.

The medal is signed “H. Glicenstein” on the reverse – that is, Henoch Glicenstein (1870-1942). His initials “H.G.” also appear on the obverse, just to the right of the sheep.

The date of issue of this medal is uncertain. Samuel Lachman of Haifa, writing in 1976 in *The Shekel* (vol.9, no.5, p.32) reports that he acquired a specimen of it from the JNF in January 1921. But how long before that date the medal was first struck, and over what period of time it was issued and/or restruck, remains obscure.

NUMISMATIC WITNESSES IN PERU'S FIGHT FOR INDEPENDENCE

Georg H Förster, Frankenthal, Germany, NI #2584

On 28 July 1821, on Lima's Plaza de Armas, General José de San Martín proclaimed the independence of Peru with the words "from this moment on Peru is free and independent due to the will of its people whose legitimate cause God protects."



General José de San Martín



Viceroy José de la Serna

16 days earlier San Martín had entered Lima unopposed with his army of liberation. The royalists loyal to Spain had considered it an impossible military task to defend Lima, capital of the Viceroyalty Peru, the City of the Kings, and retreated taking with them all the silver left at the mint.

There had been a shortage of currency and silver in Peru for many years. This was due to technical problems in the mines of Cerro de Pasco and also to the clandestine trade in silver beyond the control of the viceroy. Now the situation deteriorated further. San Martín was forced to issue paper money; copper coins were also minted on a provisional basis but the population did not take to either.

Finally, in mid-July 1822 the first silver Pesos of independent Peru were struck: on the reverse of the coin a majestic column with the goddesses of justice and peace to the left and the right and the circumscription "POR LA VIRTUD Y LA JUSTICIA." The obverse of the coin shows a shield with the bright sun of liberty over the Andes and the Pacific in the foreground crowned by a palm tree, flanked by a condor and a llama, and surrounded by four flags. The circumscription does not only contain the usual information concerning value, year, mint and assayer, but - after almost 300 years of Spanish rule - the jubilant cry "PERU LIBRE"!



Peru 8 Reales 1823, Lima Mint, "PERU LIBRE"

As a result of the shortage of silver, only about 75,000 coins were struck in 1822 and even less in 1823. However, at that time, these coins as "PESOS DE SAN MARTIN" enjoyed considerable popularity. Even today they are a reminder of the enthusiasm that reigned in those years for the freedom San Martin had brought.

On 26 and 27 July 1822, José de San Martin and Simon Bolivar met in Guayaquil. One can only regret that they could not come to an agreement on their plans for the future. San Martin, having returned to Lima, resigned all the offices that had been bestowed on him and went into exile. The people of Peru, on the other hand, had to realize that independence had not been won yet.

On 17 June 1823 Lima was retaken by the royalists under General José Canterac. He neither hesitated from plundering the churches in order to get his hands on any available silver, nor from extorting money and valuables from the population. As he reported to the Viceroy, Canterac had 200,000 Pesos struck at the Lima Mint with the portrait of the Spanish King Ferdinand VII. Further, the attempt was made to directly overstrike the "Pesos de San Martin", despised by the royalists, using the Spanish dies, but it would seem that the results were not pleasing to the Spanish. Very few of these coins have survived, coins which have become exceptional witnesses in the Peruvian struggle for freedom.



8 Reales 1823 Lima "PERU LIBRE" overstruck with dies of Ferdinand VII

We are looking at such a piece of historic evidence today: 8 Reales of Ferdinand VII dated 1823 with the Lima mintmark and the assayer initials J.P. (1). On the reverse one can already see the "conflict" between the Spanish legend of the die and the republican one on the original coin. Whilst the obverse clearly shows the bust of Ferdinand VII, in his hair one can already see the parts of the republican coat of arms and the year 1823 of the "Peso de San Martin"! And more: the letters "FERDIN VII" do not appear! The King remained nameless! A dramatic irony of fate, which on this coin appears to bear witness to the already dwindling power of the Spanish crown (2).

However, the struggle in Peru was far from being over. General José Canterac and his troops withdrew from Lima in mid-July 1823. On 1st September Simon Bolivar entered the city and shortly thereafter was given the supreme command of the republican troops as well as dictatorial political powers.

Early 1824 saw a surprise return of the Spanish in the capital. In the Lima mint 8 Reales coins were struck again with the original dies of Ferdinand VII. On May 6 the citizens were ordered to take all "Pesos de San Martin" to the mint within eight days where they were counterstamped with the Spanish royal crown and "1824". All unstamped Pesos were to be confiscated.



8 Reales 1823 Lima "PERU LIBRE" with counterstamp "Crown 1824"

But the people of Lima did not bring all the coins, as can be seen by the number of "Pesos de San Martin" still in existence today.

In the same year of 1824 the republican troops under the command of General Antonio José de Sucre defeated the royalists on the battlefields of Junin and Ayacucho. The independence of Peru was finally won.



General Canterac (standing) signing the capitulation of the Royalist Army before General Antonio José de Sucre (seated at the right) in the battlefield of Ayacucho.

Notes.

- (1) J.P. are the initials of the assayers Juan Martinez de Roxas and Pablo Cano Melgarejo.
- (2) The coin is pedigreed to the Carlos A. Elizondo Collection (see annex to *Eight Reales and Pesos of the New World*, Second edition 1971).

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OUR LADY OF BOULOGNE: THE VIRGIN OF THE SEA

Bob Forrest, Manchester, England, NI 2382

Legend tells how, in the year 636 AD, a boat without sails, oars or even crew, was seen to enter the mouth of the river Liane and to land where the present day port of Boulogne stands. On board it was a wooden statue, about 3½ feet high, of the Virgin Mary holding the infant Jesus. The image is said to have been surrounded by a strange radiance. The curious townsfolk flocked to the river bank and eventually carried the statue off to their chapel, where it was paid due reverence, and from where, needless to say, it performed numerous miracles. Its reputation spread, and Boulogne became a place of pilgrimage for the pious from all over France, not to mention England, Flanders, and even further afield. (Boulogne gains a brief mention in the Prologue to *Canterbury Tales*, for example, where Chaucer tells us that the Wife of Bath had been there. However, one suspects that it might have been mentioned as much for the rhyme it gave to Cologne as for its prominence as a place of pilgrimage! Whatever, the reference is in lines 465-6 of the Prologue.)

As the fame of the statue increased - and as the income from the influx of pilgrims increased with it - the simple chapel housing it was deemed worthy of an expansion programme. In the early 12th century the chapel was enlarged to a church, and later still to a cathedral.

But all was not sweetness and light. In 1544 the statue was kidnapped by the soldiers of Henry VIII, and spirited away briefly to England. A few years later, though, it was safely back in Boulogne again - safely, that is, until 1567, when it faced even worse threats at the hands of the Huguenots. First they tried, unsuccessfully, to burn it; then they buried it in a dung-heap; and finally they tipped it down a well. But still it survived, being eventually returned safely to the confines of its church.

Unfortunately, come the French Revolution, it didn't fare so well, and the statue, like so many other holy artifacts and relics, was finally reduced to ashes by the impious mob - well, all save part of one of the Virgin's hands, which currently sits in a reliquary in the Cathedral of Boulogne.

Today, two statues have replaced the original "miraculous image" - one of marble, which sits in a boat atop a trolley, and which can be taken out in religious processions, and the other of wood, like the original, which is richly crowned in jewels, and resides permanently in the Cathedral.

Such is the prominence of Boulogne as a place of pilgrimage that in 1938 a Marian Congress was held there and attracted over 200,000 pilgrims. In the second World War one of the statues (the marble one, I think) was carried around France, only to be returned to Boulogne after the Liberation. Thus the statue became known as "Our Lady of the Great Return."

BOOK NEWS & REVIEWS

OTTOMAN MEDALS AND ORDERS: documented History. (Osmanli Madalyalari ve Nisanlari: Belgererle tarihi.) By **METIN ERÜRETEN**. 382 pages 13 x 9¾ x 1½ inches. *Profusely illustrated with color photographs by Sinan Turan. Strong library binding. KANGSU MATBAASI (Istanbul 2001). US\$110.00 ISBN975-97637-0-2.*

This is the first detailed publication on the subject supported by their official documentation approved by each sultan involved. Translations are given in modern Turkish with summaries in the English language by Erhan Uzsay.

It reveals one aspect of the artistic cultural heritage of the Ottoman Empire symbolizing its recent 250 years' history and art. The book is very beautifully designed by the Destination Management Company (Istanbul) matching the fifteen years research by the author who works as a lawyer and was on the board of the Turkish Numismatic Society for nine years, and has written numerous articles on the Coinage of the Empire.

The introductory sections cover badges, insignia, "fez" badges, Specimen Medals and Test Mintings, metals, weights, dimensions and rarities. There is a special discussion on the "chelengks" awarded during the 18th/19th centuries. One of which with diamonds was awarded to Lord Nelson by Sultan Selim III.

The early medals and decorations are well described, so few having survived. Their designs have been preserved in an Album ordered by Abdulmecid and produced by the chief jeweler, Bogaz Efendi, which has been kept in the Topkapi Palace Museum. By permission it has been reprinted in color on pages 36-138, a most valuable addition to the author's fine reference book.

The chapters showing the medals from Mahmud I to Mehmed VI (1730-1922) cover eighty nine, together with twenty Orders (including their jeweled versions) as ordered from the time of Selim III.

There are full page portraits of the Sultans and high dignitaries in uniform showing the manner in which orders, etc. are worn.

A section on medals manufactured abroad associated with the Empire and unofficial medals like the ones issued to commemorate the 1908 Constitution event, with lapel pins, miniatures, badges, ribbons and accessories are included.

A bibliography of journals and books consulted appears on page 382 with the sources of the items illustrated from many museums, supported by the 128 reproductions of their archival documents for specialized study.

An excellent reference work which will be standard for many years.

Reviewed by Kenneth M. MacKenzie

MEMBER NOTICE PAGE

Tom Galway, Gallery Numis, P. O. Box 620421, Middleton, WI 53562-0421:

Write for a free copy of my List No. 18. This list covers countries from I-Z. All coins listed are priced under \$10.00. Countries with large listings include Indian Native States, Italian States, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden and Turkey.

John Pieratt, 2635 S. Hydraulic 32C, Wichita, KS 67216: WANTED – Information on French Indo China man hole covers, forged North Vietnam, different city names on them.

Steve Yakoubian, P. O. Box 13372, Torrance, CA 90503: WANTED – Any historical information/background on Central American Union coins listed in Bruce (#XE21, 22).

John Pieratt, 2635 S. Hydraulic 32C, Wichita, KS 67216: WANTED – Firecracker labels – old catalogs – box or single, bulldogs, cherry bombs, 2 and 3 inches, silver salutes for display.

Paul Harris, P. O. Box 43157, Minneapolis, MN 55443, e-mail: pieceof8@att.net WANTED TO BUY: Spain auction catalogs of Spanish Numismatic Firms; also catalogs of Richard Long. Please let me know what you have for sale.

PONTERIO & ASSOCIATES TO SELL JOHN S. DAVENPORT COLLECTION

Ponterio & Associates, Inc. is pleased to announce that it will be selling the world coin collection of John S. Davenport in various public auctions during 2002 and 2003.

The world famous author of world crown-size and other numismatic references during the past half century passed away this past year, leaving a legacy of his knowledge of world coinage in numerous well illustrated and detailed books. The famous “Davenport” books are to be found in coin shops all over the world, and have inspired numerous collectors to collect world crowns.

The first coins from the Davenport collection will be offered in the Ponterio & Associates auctions to be held in conjunction with the Chicago International Coin Fair on Friday and Saturday, April 5th and 6th, 2002; other material will be offered in auctions being held in conjunction with the Long Beach Coin & Collectibles Expos in June and September of 2002, the New York International Numismatic Convention in January of 2003 and the Chicago International Coin Fair in April of 2003.

Ponterio & Associates, Inc. auction catalogs may be obtained from the firm approximately 4 week prior to the dates of the auctions at \$25 per copy. An annual subscription for all Ponterio publications is \$80 per year within the United States and \$100 per year for non-United States subscribers. For more information, contact them by writing to 1818 Robinson Avenue, San Diego, CA 92103, by telephone at (619) 299-0400 or (800) 854-2888, by Fax at (619) 299-6952 or by e-mail at coins@ponterio.com. Catalogs are available for viewing at their website, www.ponterio.com, about four weeks prior to each auction.